

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4779

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4769

FROM CROSS FOR EA/EDMOND

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD HK

SUBJ: GSP FOR HONG KONG

REF: HONG KONG 4759

1. I AM VERY APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN OBTAINING AN ADMINISTRATION CONSENSUS LIKELY TO LEAD TO HONG KONG'S INCLUSION. IF I ASK FOR MORE, IT IS NOT BECAUSE I AM UNGRATEFUL FOR PAST EFFORTS.

2. THIS POST IS COMMITTEED BOTH TO SUPPORTING AND PLAYING MOTHER CONFESSOR TO AN OCTOBER AMERICAN FORTNIGHT APPROXIMATELY THREE TIME THE SIZE OF THE 1973. EVENT. ANYTHING LESS THAN AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS RISKS ENGENDERING AN ERA OF BAD FEELING AND RECIPROCAL RECRIMINATIONS BEWTEEN THE CONGEN AND THE LARGE, WELL-ORGANIZED , AND ARTICULARE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY. SOME FIRMS, WHO PROBABLY DIDN'T WANT TO JOIN THE EFFORT ANYHOW, ARE USING THE GSP SITUATION AS A PRETEXT FOR STAYING OUT. I BELEIVE WE CAN GET ALONG VERY WELL WITHOUT THEIR HELP, BUT I AM CONCERNED LEST THE MYTH SPRING UP THAT, OWNING THE USG POSITON ON PREFERENCES THE FORTNIGHT WAS NOT EVERYTHING IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN. I HOPE THIS

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WILL BE ANCIENT HISTORY IN OCTOBER, BUT THE PROSPECT OF

LOSING MOMENTUM RIGHT NOW MAKES ME ANXIOUS FOR THE OCTOBER
OUTCOME.

3. AS I UNDERSTAND YOUR CURRENT INTENTIONS, YOU HOPE TO
SEND HK TO THE A LIST IN TANDEM WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER B
COUNTRY THAT HAS REPENTED OF ITS INIQUITIES, THUS SHIELDING
IF FROM TOOM MUCH PUBLICITY. TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU CAN DO
SO, AND CONSISTENT WITH TRADE POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN
WASHINGTON, I URGE SPEED IN ANNOUNCING HK'S ACCEPTANCE.
IN VIEW OF THE TOTAL CAPITULATION ON REVERSE PREFERENCES
CONTAINED IN REFTEL, YOU MIGHT EVEN BE ABLE TO SEND HK
IN ALONE AS A REWARD FOR GOOD BEHAVOIR.
CROSS

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